Author's response to reviews

Title: E-cadherin loss alters cytoskeletal organization and adhesion in non-malignant breast cells but is insufficient to induce an epithelial-mesenchymal transition

Authors:

Augustine Chen (augustine.chen@otago.ac.nz)
Henry Beetham (beehe501@student.otago.ac.nz)
Michael A Black (mik.black@otago.ac.nz)
Rashmi Priya (r.priya@imb.uq.edu.au)
Bryony J Telford (bryony.telford@otago.ac.nz)
Joanne Guest (joanne.guest@otago.ac.nz)
George A R Wiggins (george.wiggins@otago.ac.nz)
Tanis D Godwin (tanis.godwin@otago.ac.nz)
Alpha S Yap (a.yap@imb.uq.edu.au)
Parry J Guilford (parry.guilford@otago.ac.nz)

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The Editors
BioMed Central

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the provisional acceptance of our manuscript. We have noted the editor’s comment and have outlined our response below.

Editor’s comment: “...add a short explanatory note to the discussion regarding how the change in MMP expression/activity would likely be manifest in 3D models (i.e. please place your response to Dr. Oliveira’s point #4 within the body of the manuscript itself)”

We have now added our response to Dr. Oliveira’s point #4 in the discussion section as follows:

Page 16, line 452: The only EMT feature that was clearly activated in the MCF10A CDH1-/- cells was increased expression of several metalloprotease genes (MMP9, MMP14, MMP15, MMP17 and MMP28). Increased expression of MMP2 and MMP9 has been shown previously in MCF10A cells following TGF-β and ERBB2 induced EMT [49]. We predict that the impact of elevated MMP expression would be detectable in invasion assays using 3D matrices like Matrigel, although such assays were not part of our analysis.

Finally, we would like to thank the editors for their considered evaluation to our manuscript.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Parry Guilford